

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1.7  
F7625T  
Cp. 2

# TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE · · FOREST SERVICE

AUG 18 1961

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

No. 608

Production of Miscellaneous Timber Products--Lake States, 1960<sup>1/</sup>

Changes in technology and consumer tastes have significantly affected production of miscellaneous timber products in the Lake States. Reported here are the findings of the latest biennial survey of these products cut in 1960 in each of the three Lake States. All known operators in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan were contacted.

Cooperage logs.--More than 10 million board feet of cooperage logs were cut--twice the quantity produced in 1958. Several southern manufacturers moving into the region accounted for part of the increase. Less importation of staves from other States was a factor also. Production was primarily for the whiskey barrel market, with some rough staves being exported to Scotland. (See table on back.)

Piling.--Piling production declined to 437,000 lineal feet, 29 percent less than the 1958 total. Increased competition from structural steel and a slowdown of the highway building programs have contributed to the decrease. Hardwood piling production was concentrated in Michigan, softwood production in Minnesota.

Poles.--More than 286,000 poles were cut in 1960, an increase of 23 percent over 1958. Continued construction of pole-type farm and commercial buildings created a market for the expanded production. Building poles are generally shorter than utility poles. Tamarack is becoming a more widely used pole species. Pole production was concentrated in Minnesota.

Chemical and charcoal wood.--Outdoor cooking with charcoal has been mainly responsible for the expanded demand for charcoal wood. Since 1958 production has nearly doubled; it totaled 317,000 cords in 1960. More than three-fourths of the cut was low-grade logs and bolts, while the remainder came from sawmill slabs, veneer cores, and other mill residues. The increased volume of residues used was principally in Michigan.

Excelsior bolts.--An expanded cut of 10,000 cords over 1958 boosted total output to 63,000 cords--still 23,000 cords less than in 1956. Excelsior has found additional markets in filters for air coolers, mink bedding, chick box pads, and poultry nest pads. Backing for archery targets continued to be an important use.

Heading stock.--Additional container-veneer mill closures and reduced operating levels resulted in the cutting of only 4,000 cords, one-third the 1958 volume. Continued market inroads by competing products, such as plastic and cardboard containers, have severely limited activities in the container veneer industry.

<sup>1/</sup> Includes all logs and bolts except lumber and veneer logs, mine timbers, match and lath bolts, and pulpwood.

JULY 1961

JAMES E. BLYTH  
Research Forester

(over)

Production of miscellaneous timber products, Lake States, 1960

Species	:	:	:	:	Total
	:	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Michigan	
	:	:	:	:	

COOPERAGE LOGS (MBF Int'l 1/4" Rule)

Basswood	575	4	-	579
Oak	2,488	7,268	-	9,756
Aspen	-	2	-	2
<u>All species</u>	<u>3,063</u>	<u>7,274</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,337</u>

PILING (M lineal feet)

Softwood	158	11	3	172
Hardwood	-	16	249	265
<u>All species</u>	<u>158</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>252</u>	<u>437</u>

POLES (M pieces)

Pine	97	24	-	121
Cedar	124	10	21	155
Tamarack	10	-	-	10
<u>All species</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>286</u>

CHEMICAL AND CHARCOAL WOOD (M std. cords)

Hardwood:				
Roundwood	3	58	183	244
Mill residue	2	24	47	73
<u>All species</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>317</u>

EXCELSIOR BOLTS (M std. cords)

Aspen	-	49	14	63
-------	---	----	----	----

HEADING STOCK (M std. cords)

Aspen	*	2	*	2
Other hardwoods	*	2	-	2
<u>All species</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>4</u>

\* Less than 500 cords.